

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 21, 2018, MEETING OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Franklin County Economic Development Committee was called to order on February 21, 2018, at 4:05 p.m. in room 102 of the Government Center by President Bill Schirmer.

Commission members present: Bill Schirmer, Tim Ripperger, John Palmer, and secretary, Sandy Hill. Also present were Nick Lawrence, Grant Reeves, Sara Duffy, Debbie Blank, and John Estridge.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. Tim made a motion to approve and accept the minutes of the last meeting. Bill seconded the motion and it carried.

John Palmer was appointed as a board member, replacing Bob Braun by County Council on January 23, 2018. His term will expire on December 21, 2018.

John nominated Bill for President of the Board and Tim seconded. Motion was carried. Bill nominated Tim as Vice President and John seconded. Motion was carried. John will act as Treasurer.

In the past, the Board has only met as needed. It was decided to meet monthly from here on forward. The meetings will be scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month to start at 4:00 p.m. in room 102 of the Government Center. Sandy will prepare a schedule to be posted and sent to the media and Auditor.

There was a discussion of the by-laws. It is unclear if they had been adopted or just a written draft. John, Nick and Grant will be going over the draft and see if there are any amendments needed.

FC Tourism and Brookville Redevelopment Commission formed a committee to solicit information for the possibility of a lodging prospect in the area. Eight firms are interested. The requests were reviewed by the end of last December by this committee. Finalists were found. Economic Development would help pay part of the \$8200 fee for a feasibility study. If approved, the contract calls for \$1000 as ED's share to pay. Our fee can be paid out of contractual service on the line item budget. We need to move money from dues line to do this. We need a written commitment as an interlocal agreement. Tim made a motion to proceed with this endeavor and sign the agreement. John seconded and motion carried. The money will be moved by a transfer of funds through the Auditor office.

In the past, the Chamber of Commerce has sponsored a summit meeting with several local entities. There is interest in doing this again but limiting it to Brookville Redevelopment, FC Redevelopment, Brookville Town Board, FC Tourism, and the Chamber of Commerce. The goal is to get all involved moving in the same direction. Andi White and Bill will discuss how to accomplish this. The first meeting would be an open forum just to discuss what everyone is doing and how this should be structured. John will look into this.

The inter local agreement contract price was good. The firm has offered to stay on board after the study is complete at no extra cost. Mike Lindner is the contact person. The initial analysis would be complete within 30 days. The data would be compiled in 15 to 20 days. Then, marketing could start and reach out to investor groups.

Nick reported on ST RD 1 utility providers of sewer, water, and gas. He said he had advised the town of possible tax abatement concepts for the Valley House group. He noted that the SEISB advisor was

supposed to be pulled from our region due to budget cuts. But the advisor will stay on through the end of December because of lobbying in Indianapolis to retain the position. Purdue is involved with this group. He talked about the 1-74 Business Corridor Group dues needing to be paid. This group serves Shelbyville through Dearborn County via 7-74. This agency does marketing on a macro level with our peers. He presented an invoice for \$2000 for year 2018. Tim made a motion to pay these dues and John seconded. The motion carried.

Grant talked about an email-Strategeus Request for New Market Projects. He said it is worth looking into.

Comments-Sara Duffy asked if the Wheatley Contract was signed and for how much. Bill said Grant has a few items to look at first. The contract will be for \$80,000. It is the hope to use TIF money also in this contract for funding any TIF projects. Sara asked when O'Riley Auto Parts would be moving into the old Alco property. It may be at least two months. Skyline Chili should be opening in May.

Tim made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John seconded and the motion carried.



William Schirmer



Timothy Ripperger



John Palmer